

about as effective as using a Band-Aid for a deep flesh wound.

The provisions in the GOP bill would do nothing to stop HMOs from making major decisions based on profits instead of patients.

CHILD CUSTODY PROTECTION ACT

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, parents should not be robbed of the inherent right to counsel our children at their time of need. Yet, strangers are now allowed to transport our underage daughters in order to obtain abortions in States without parental notification laws.

This outrage, which is actually encouraged by heartless abortion clinics that place ads highlighting their State's lack of consent laws, must be stopped.

My legislation, H.R. 3682, the Child Custody Protection Act, will ensure that parental rights are respected. It would make it a Federal misdemeanor for a nonparent to transport a minor girl across State lines to avoid that State's abortion parental notification laws.

Innocent minor girls and parents must be protected from strangers who decide to make possible life-threatening decisions for them. This legislation has already been approved by the full House Judiciary Committee and it will soon be brought to this floor for a vote.

Madam Speaker, encourage my colleagues to support the protection of parental rights by voting for this important legislation.

DISCHARGE PETITION URGING CONSIDERATION OF IMF FUNDING

(Mr. OBEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. OBEY. Madam Speaker, several days ago I introduced House Resolution 473, which will provide for the consideration of the remnants of H.R. 3580, a supplemental appropriation bill funding the International Monetary Fund.

Madam Speaker, I would urge all Members to sign the discharge petition which will be available at the desk starting now.

Last fall the Speaker of the House decided to use the U.N. and the IMF funding as leverage to force the President to agree to unacceptable changes in international family planning policies, and he has continued to hold this needed funding hostage. Failure to act on the IMF funding continues to endanger the U.S. economy, which is becoming more concerned each passing day with what is happening in Asia.

We need to have the debate on the IMF so that the many concerns about how the IMF is run can be resolved and so that critically needed replenish-

ments can be put in place. American jobs are at stake. We cannot afford to allow this threat to the American economy to continue. I urge every Member to sign the discharge petition now.

LIBERALS' RECORD ON EDUCATION IN AMERICA

(Mr. CHABOT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CHABOT. Madam Speaker, as a former schoolteacher myself, I would like to review the liberals' record on the issue of education in this country.

In the 1960s, the liberals decided to "dumb down" the curriculum and now across the country academic rigor is absent from many of our public schools. The predictable result is that student achievement in many areas has plummeted.

The liberals also decided that self-esteem was in and that actual knowledge was out. The liberals embraced bogus, faddish teaching methods and produced a generation of children who never learned to read.

And now the liberals oppose legislation we recently passed here in Congress which would allow parents to put their own money in accounts and not to pay tax on the money in those accounts for educating their children, kindergarten through high school. They say it would somehow hurt the public schools.

Baloney. Let us make it a little easier for parents, particularly middle-class parents, to provide a quality education for their children.

REAL MANAGED CARE REFORM

(Mr. PALLONE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, yesterday the Republican Health Task Force unveiled a set of principles that fall far short of real patient protections for Americans in HMOs.

More sinister was the Republicans' stated intention to combine changes in managed care with limits on medical malpractice liability and other highly controversial add-ons which will immediately kill any possibility for even limited patient protections to pass Congress this year.

Earlier this week, the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. GANSKE) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. DINGELL) introduced a discharge petition to bypass the Republican leadership's opposition to real managed care reform and bring the Patients' Bill of Rights to the floor for a vote.

The Patients' Bill of Rights would put control of medical decisions back where they belong, in the hands of doctors and their patients, not with the insurance industry bureaucrats.

Madam Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to sign the Ganske-Dingell discharge petition so we can have a vote on real managed care reform this year.

CONGRATULATIONS TO JESSICA LORINE GONDER, U.S. SAVINGS BOND NATIONAL STUDENT POSTER CONTEST WINNER

(Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland. Madam Speaker, the United States Savings Bond National Student Poster Contest provides an opportunity for thousands of our children to learn the value of saving money while increasing the public awareness of buying U.S. savings bonds as an easy way to save and invest in their own and America's future success.

I am extremely proud of one of my constituents, Jessica Lorine Gonder of Funkstown, Maryland, who designed posters which won both the 1997 and 1998 Maryland State contest. Her impressive freehand design, which I wish everyone could see, is the 1998 National Second Place winner. Jessica was just a sixth grader at E. Russell Hicks Middle School in Hagerstown, Maryland, in Washington County.

Jessica Gonder's award-winning posters are another testament to America's greatness and our leadership in the world. In America, competition, hard work, and perseverance improve quality and are the keys to achieving success.

Madam Speaker, I say, "Congratulations, Jessica."

CONGRESS SHOULD ADDRESS CLASS SIZE AND SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION

(Mr. SNYDER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SNYDER. Madam Speaker, America's school kids are now out of school and we join them, beginning today, back home for the 2-week July 4th recess.

When we return, we will not have many work days left this year. And yet, we have done nothing about the two most critical problems facing America's public schools: class sizes that are too large and school buildings of poor quality.

Madam Speaker, I want Arkansas school boards to run their schools, but the American people expect their government in Washington to help with these critical needs. When we return in 2 weeks, I hope we will refocus our attention to America's public schools and help America put more teachers in the classrooms and create better quality classrooms to put them in. America's schoolchildren deserve the best schools that we can give them.

IN HONOR OF DR. GLORIA M. SHATTO, PRESIDENT, BERRY COLLEGE

(Mr. BARR of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)